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Red Scare

After WW1 and the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, the Red Scare began to take hold in the United States. The US feared the expansion of communism due to what happened in russia that led to the creation of communism.The US began experiencing labor strikes that fought for improvement in wages and working conditions. They were also dealing with discrimination of immigrants that became restricted from entering the US after the passage of the Immigration Act of 1924. To solve the problem the US decided to isolate themselves from the rest of the world. The red scare had a massive impact on the United States as Labor strikes occurred, leading to immigrants being discriminated against creating many conflicts as the US became almost totally isolated .

The Red Scare caused many social changes around the country. In 1919 prices went up 77% and the people were being paid the same wage as before the price hikes. The workers were unhappy did not agree with the change of price and labor strikes began popping up around the country. The biggest strikes that occurred during the Red Scare were Boston Police Force, US Steel Industry, & Coal miners. What all these strikes have in common, is that they were all demanding higher wages to counteract the price increases. The most infamous strike that occurred was on September 09, 1919 . The Boston police force felt the lack of recognition for their trade union they also wanted improvements in wages and working conditions. The labor strikes left an impact on the people they feared that this was a step towards communism. As the Bolsheviks were predicting downfall of capitalism.

Russian immigrants were singled out as a particular danger,and their unions, and social clubs were spied upon and raided by federal agents. Immigrants were not trusted as Americans feared that immigrants were going to take over as well as turn America into a communist nation. In New York City more than 5,000 Russian immigrants were arrested. During the worst days of the Red scare in 1919 and 1920,According to the article Soviet Exiles “Thousands of Russians were deported without a formal trial and ironically sent to the Soviet Union- a new nation where immigrants have never lived in or were unfamiliar with” ( “Soviet Exiles” 2017). Because of the Red scare, the Russian American community began to keep a low profile. They began to change their names and they denied their heritage in order to stay in the US. Not only were Russian immigrants were discriminated against, but other races were also. The “Sacco & Vanzetti” case was a well known case of two Italians immigrants who were accused of murder. Sacco and Vanzetti were Italian immigrants who did not want to leave the US; not knowing what kind of trouble they were in they lied threw the case because they feared of being deported. At the end Sacco and Vanzetti were found guilty and were executed.

Late in 1919, many booby traps were sent as dynamite bombs to high-level officials, newspaper editors and businessmen. 36 explosive packages were were designed to go off on MayDay, 1919 then a second series of bombings took place, destroying Palmer’s home and leading to increased public pressure for action against the radical agitators.This caused great fear to the American people. In 1918 and continuing to 1920 Palmer spearheaded a nationwide hunt for potential revolutionaries. “The Palmer Raids targeted radical labor unions such as the Industrial Workers of the World and the Union of Russian Workers. Federal officials also roughed up and arrested immigrants, socialists, and communists.”(The Palmer Raids, 2003-2017).In the face of these egregious civil liberties abuses, a small group of people decided to take a stand this is when the creation of the ACLU happened.Created by Jane Addams, Roger Nash Bladwin, Felix Frankfurter, Crystal Eastman, and Norman Thomas. The ACLU is a nonpartisan, non-profit organization whose stated mission is "to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to every person in this country by the Constitution and laws of the United States.” this helped the people with fear to feel a bit more safe during the red care.

 Due to the Red scare, the US dealt with many social, political, and international problems. America dealt with angry worker in labor strikes fighting for better working environments and high wages, discrimination of immigrants deporting immigrants and sending them to Soviet Union and lastly justifying in becoming isolated to settle the conflicts that were taken place during the Red Scare. America never fell into the steps of Soviet Union, they took matter into their own hand and solved their issues that occurred by cause of the Red Scare.

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